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Wednesday



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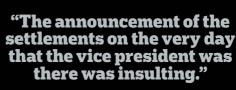


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"The building in Jerusalem, and in all other places, will continue in the same way as has been customary over the last 42 years."

ISRAELI PRIME MINISTER BENJAMIN NETANYAHU



U.S. SECRETARY OF STATE HILLARY CLINTON

Can the U.S. and Israel mend fences if neither backs down? 9



EYE OPENERS

Great American Exports: 'Avatar,' Corn, Dino Poo

A Swiss watchmaker has created a watch made out of fossilized dinosaur dung. The watch will sell for \$11,290 and comes with a strap made with skin from an American cane toad. Designer Yvan Arpa said Monday the feces came from a plant-eater that died about 100 million years ago in what is now the U.S. (AP)

Hmm, Has Anyone Seen MacGyver Lately?

A former dentist in Fall River, Mass., is accused of putting paper clips in patients' mouths during root canals, then billing Medicaid for the stainless steel posts he should have used. The state attorney general announced Tuesday that a grand jury indicted Michael Clair. The charges include assault and battery, larceny and submitting false claims to Medicaid. (AP)

Green Beer Has Nothing on Vandalism

A mate on the Staten Island Ferry has been suspended for

marking surfaces of the boat's pilothouse with a shamrock stamp. Jared Largo says he just wanted to spread St. Patrick's Day cheer. Says Largo: "The one that got me in trouble was the one by the time clock." He says he planned to remove the shamrocks eventually. He was punished with 16 days of unpaid suspension. (AP)





HIDING BETWEEN the legs of his mother, Porntip, Mr. Shuffles turns an evil eye on the camera during his public debut Sunday at Sydney's Taronga Zoo. The calf was thought to have died during labor but was born alive on March 10, amazing its keepers. Fans can vote for Mr. Shuffles' permanent name at Taronga.org.au. (EXPRESS)

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Nation

Population Of Inmates Is Reduced

New York

Spurred by budget crises, California and Michigan together reduced their prison populations by more than 7,500 last year, contributing to what a new report says is the first

nationwide decline in state inmates since 1972.

The overall drop was slight, according to the Pew Center — just tions last year, according to the Pewreport.

The overall drop was slight, according to the Pew Center — just 0.4 percent — but its report suggests there could be a sustained trend

because of interest by state policymakers in curtailing costs.

"The political and policy environment has changed drastically," said Adam Gelb, director of the Pew Center's Public Safety Performance Project.

According to official data collected by Pew, 1,403,091 people were under the jurisdiction of state prisons on Jan. 1, down by 5,739 from a year earlier. The report said this was the first year-to-year drop in the state prison population since 1972, when there were about 174,000 prisoners. DAVID CRARY (AP)

Dems Defend Health Care Tactic

Party leaders mull 'deem and pass' vote to push bill through

Washington

Democrats vowed Tuesday to pass a health care overhaul package one way or another but ran into vociferous resistance from Republican lawmakers, who blasted a potential maneuver that would allow the House to approve the Senate's version of President Obama's signature domestic initiative without actually voting on it.

House Majority Leader Steny H. Hoyer, D-Md., and other Democrats spent much of Tuesday defending the parliamentary procedure in question, although they told reporters that party leaders have not made a final decision on whether to use it.

Under the procedure, known as a "deem and pass," the House would adopt a rule for a vote on a package of fixes to the Senate health care bill, with passage signifying that lawmakers "deem" the underlying bill to be passed.



 $Rep.\,Michelle\,Bachmann, R-Minn., speaks\,to\,a\,crowd\,that\,gathered\,in\,Washington\,Tuesday\,to\,protest\,the\,health\,care\,reform\,bill.$

Democrats defiantly argued that "deem and pass" is a venerable tactic, born in the depths of the Great Depression and employed most enthusiastically in the past by Republicans, such as former House speaker Newt Gingrich.

"I didn't hear any of that ferocity when the Republicans used this, perhaps, hundreds of times," said Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif.

Republicans seized on the pros-

pect of "deem and pass" to step up their attacks on the bill.

"Anyone who endorses this strategy will be forever remembered for trying to claim they didn't vote for something they did," said Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky. "It will go down as one of the most extraordinary legislative sleights of hand in history."

Rep. Michelle Bachmann,

R-Minn., told conservative activists who rallied on Capitol Hill, "We do not want this bill passed. We want to kill the bill."

The "deem and pass" tactic has been commonly used, although never to pass legislation as momentous as the health care bill. Pelosi said she prefers the tactic because it would protect lawmakers who are reluctant to publicly support the measure. (THE WASHINGTON POST)



NUTRITION

PepsiCo plans to stop selling sugary drinks at schools worldwide, following the success of programs in the U.S. aimed at reducing childhood obesity. The company said Tuesday it will remove

full-calorie, sweetened drinks from schools in more than 200 countries by 2012, marking the first such move by a major soft drink producer. Both PepsiCo Inc. and Coca-Cola Co. adopted guidelines to stop selling sugary drinks in U.S. schools in 2006. (AP)

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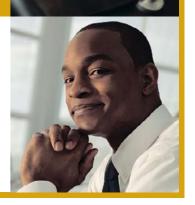
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Nation

Basic Training Adjusted

Revamped regiment builds core strength for modern warfare

Fort Jackson, S.C.

New soldiers are grunting through the kind of stretches and twists found in "ab blaster" classes at suburban gyms as the Army revamps its basic training regimen for the first time in three decades.

Heeding the advice of Iraq and Afghanistan veterans, commanders are dropping five-mile runs and bayonet drills in favor of zigzag sprints and exercises that hone core muscles. Battlefield sergeants say that's the kind of fitness needed to dodge across alleys, walk patrol with heavy packs or haul a buddy out of a burning vehicle.

Trainers also want to toughen recruits who are often more familiar with Facebook than fist-

"Soldiers need to be able to move quickly under load, to be mobile under load, with your body armor, your weapons and your helmet, in a stressful situation," said



Soldiers battle each other in pugil stick training at Fort Jackson in Columbia, S.C.

Frank Palkoska, head of the Army's Fitness School at Fort Jackson.

The new plan is being expanded this month at the Army's four other basic training installations Fort Leonard Wood, Mo.; Fort Sill, Okla.; Fort Benning, Ga.; and Fort Knox, Ky.

Lt. Gen. Mark Hertling of the Army's Training and Doctrine Command, the three-star general in charge of revamping all aspects of initial training, said his overall

goal is to drop outmoded drills and focus on what soldiers need today and in the future.

Bayonet drills had continued for decades, even though soldiers no longer carry the blades on their automatic rifles. Hertling ordered the drills dropped.

"We have to make the training relevant to the conditions on the modern battlefield," Hertling said during a visit to Fort Jackson in January. Susanne M. Schafer (AP)

Honda to Recall 400K Vehicles for Brake Problem

Detroit

Honda Motor Co. will recall more than 410,000 Odyssey minivans and Element small trucks because of braking system problems that could make it tougher to stop the vehicle if not repaired.

The recall includes 344,000 Odysseys and 68,000 Elements from 2007 and 2008.

Honda said in a statement that over time, brake pedals can feel "soft" and must be pressed closer to the floor to stop the vehicles. Left unrepaired, the problem could cause loss of braking power and possibly a crash, Honda spokesman Chris Martin said.

"It's definitely not operating the way it should, and it's safety systems, so it brings it to the recall status," he said.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration has reported three crashes due to the problem, with minor injuries and no deaths, Martin said.

Honda said that affected owners should wait to get a letter from the company before scheduling a repair because the parts are not vet available. (AP)

Hearsay



"Let's deal with reality. ... The possibility of catching him alive is infinitesimal. He will be killed."

- ERIC HOLDER, ATTORNEY GENERAL, INSISTING ON TUES-DAY THAT OSAMA BIN LADEN WILL NEVER FACE A TRIAL IN THE UNITED STATES.

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Nation



Thieves broke into this Eli Lilly facility in Enfield, Conn., through a hole in the roof.

Drugs Worth \$75M Stolen From Eli Lilly Warehouse

Hartford, Conn.

In a Hollywood-style heist, thieves cut a hole in the roof of a warehouse, rappelled inside and scored one of the biggest hauls of its kind — not diamonds, gold bullion or Old World art, but about \$75 million in antidepressants and other prescription drugs.

The pills — stolen from the pharmaceutical giant Eli Lilly & Co. in quantities big enough to fill a tractor-trailer — are believed to be destined for the black market, perhaps overseas.

The thieves apparently scaled the brick exterior of the warehouse in an industrial park in Enfield during a blustery rainstorm before daybreak Sunday. After lowering themselves to the floor, they disabled the alarms and spent at least an hour loading pallets of drugs into a vehicle at the loading dock.

"Just by the way it occurred, it appears that there were several individuals involved and that it was a very well planned-out and orchestrated operation," Enfield Police Chief Carl Sferrazza said. "It's not your run-of-the-mill home burglary, that's for sure."

Experts described it as one of the biggest pharmaceutical heists in history.

Edward Sagebiel, a spokesman for Eli Lilly, put the wholesale value of the drugs at \$75 million. No narcotics or other painkillers were in the warehouse, he said. (AP)

Plane Strikes Jogger, Killing Him

Hilton Head, S.C.

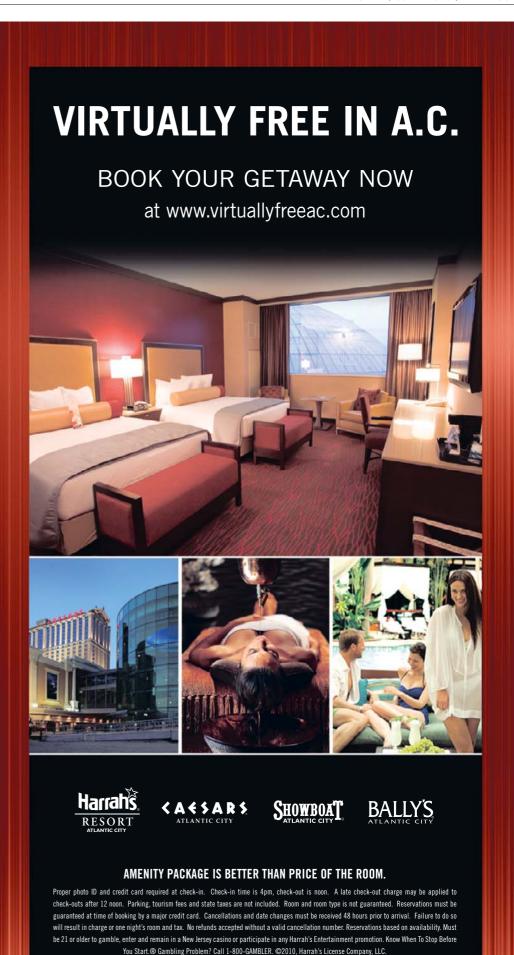
A 38-year-old father of two was jogging and listening to his iPod when he was hit from behind and killed by a small plane making an emergency landing on the beach, officials said Tuesday.

Robert Gary Jones of Woodstock, Ga., died instantly Monday evening when he was hit by the plane, which had lost its propeller, said Beaufort County Coroner Ed Allen. The pilot's vision was apparently blocked by oil on the windshield.



Authorities move an airplane that killed a jogger on Monday in Hilton Head, S.C.

The pilot, Edward I. Smith of Chesapeake, Va., and his lone passenger both walked away from the crash landing. (AP)



World

In Brief



A man walks by a shark fin on display in a seafood shop in Hong Kong last week.

DOHA, QATAR

Proposal to Boost Shark Conservation Defeated

China, Japan and Russia helped defeat a U.S.-endorsed proposal at a U.N. wildlife trade meeting Tuesday that would have boosted conservation efforts for sharks, expressing concern it would hurt poor nations and should be the responsibility of regional bodies. The opposition to the proposal came hours after the conservation group Oceana reported that demand for shark fin soup in Asia is driving many species to the brink of extinction. (AP)

KIEV, UKRAINE

Ukraine To Pass Law Against Joining NATO

Ukraine's new governing coalition in parliament said Tuesday it will pass a law against joining military alliances such as NATO, a move that is sure to please Russia while tilting Ukraine away from its previous pro-Western course. In a statement of purpose published in the parliament's official newspaper, the coalition supporting President Viktor Yanukovych said new legislation will "enshrine Ukraine's nonaligned status in law." (AP)

LAGOS, NIGERIA

Online Video Encourages Muslim-Christian Battle

A video posted on a militant Web site calls for Muslims in Nigeria to use "the sword and the spear" to rise up against Christians in Africa's most populous nation, according to a translation released Tuesday by a U.S. group that monitors militant sites. The video on the Ansar al-Mujahideen forum, a Web site sympathetic to al-Qaeda, comes in the wake of a series of religious massacres and riots in central Nigeria. (AP)

Thais Spill Their Blood in Protest

'Red Shirt' activists use shock tactic to try to force new elections

Bangkok

Thai protesters seeking a change of government turned to shock tactics Tuesday, pouring gallons of their own blood into a glistening puddle at the gate of the prime minister's office.

The dramatic gesture, repeated in front of the headquarters of Prime Minister Abhisit Vejjajiava's Democrat Party, grabbed attention but put the "Red Shirt" protest movement no closer to its goal of forcing new elections.

More than 100,000 demonstrators from all over the country gathered in Bangkok on Sunday, vowing to keep up their protest until victory. But Abhisit has rejected their demands to dissolve Parliament, saying only that he will listen to the protesters' point of view.

Reporters asked one of the protest leaders what their next move would be, and Veera Musikapong replied, "I want to know that myself." He said the group maps strategy on a day-by-day basis.

The protesters comprise sup-



Thai soldiers stand inside the prime minister's office complex on Tuesday after protesters poured their blood in front of the gate.

porters of former prime minister Thaksin Shinawatra, who was ousted by a 2006 military coup for alleged corruption, and pro-democracy activists who opposed the army takeover. They believe Abhisit came to power illegitimately with the connivance of the military and other parts of the traditional ruling class who were alarmed by Thaksin's popularity, particularly among the poor.

"When we see gallons and gallons of blood here, ... we feel proud that this is the mutual expression of the Thai people."

- NATTHAWUT SAIKUA, PROTESTER

On Tuesday, thousands of Red Shirts formed lines to have their blood drawn by nurses. They claimed to have collected 300,000 cubic centimeters, or nearly 80 gallons.

A few teaspoons of blood were drawn from each volunteer and then transferred into dozens of plastic jugs that were passed overhead through the crowd before being delivered to the prime minister's office. THANYARAT DOKSONE (AP)

China Prepares for Google to Leave Country

Beijing

The Chinese government on Tuesday appeared to set the foundation for Internet giant Google to pull out of China, with one spokesman contending that the company's potential departure would be an "individual business act" and another warning Google to obey Chinese law whether it leaves China or not.

The comments — by the spokesmen for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Commerce — followed strong indications that Google, which has been



A Chinese flag flies outside Google's headquarters in Beijing in January.

locked in a dispute with the Chinese government over censorship, was preparing to leave China.

Chinese online advertisers are advising their clients to switch their accounts to Google's Chinese competitor, Baidu. And government officials from several ministries have privately predicted that Google soon would end its operations.

Shares of Google fell nearly 3 percent in regular trading Monday to close at \$563.18, Reuters reported. Shares of Baidu, the No.1 search engine in China, rose 4.8 percent to \$576.84.

In January, Google announced that it would stop censoring its Web searches in China, in violation of Chinese government regulations. Google started operations in China in 2006 and has been censoring search results ever since. China routinely blocks Internet content, shutting off access to sites such as Facebook, YouTube and Twitter. Negotiations have occurred between Google and the government on how to resolve the impasse, but, apparently, no progress has been made.

Google's plans to stop censoring searches shocked the Western business community in China, which has long avoided publicly confronting the Chinese government on issues such as censorship and copyright infringement — all of which bedevil Western businesses here.

JOHN POMFRET (THE WASHINGTON POST)

Iraqi PM Urges Recount

Rival leads overall vote count; al-Maliki alleges electoral fraud

Baghdad

A secular coalition challenging the Iraqi prime minister in the country's historic parliamentary elections has narrowly pulled ahead for the first time in the overall vote count, although it still trails in the crucial province-by-province count.

The Iraqiya coalition, led by former Prime Minister Ayad Allawi, seemed to be gaining momentum, taking a 9,000-vote lead nationwide, according to new totals released late Tuesday. But with about 20 percent of the votes still to be counted from the March 7 election, it was unclear whether that margin would give Allawi more seats in parliament, which will determine who will lead the government.

The news came as Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki and his State of Law coalition accused election officials of manipulating vote counts and called for a recount, a candidate from his bloc said. It was the



Electoral workers check ballot boxes and count votes in Baghdad, Irag, on Tuesday.

prime minister's first challenge to the results, and his bloc drew a link between its accusations and Allawi, accusing some electoral commission staff of having allegiances to groups backing al-Maliki's rival.

Iraq's vote counting has been winding and chaotic, with ballot results being portioned out piecemeal by election officials and almost immediately subject to fraud accusations. The winner will be tasked with forming a government that will oversee the country as U.S. forces go home.

Crucially, with 79 percent of votes counted, al-Maliki's coalition was still winning in seven of Iraq's 18 provinces — including allimportant Baghdad — compared with five for Allawi.

That could prove important since parliament seats are apportioned mainly by how well coalitions do in the provinces, not according to overall vote total. BEN HUBBARD AND QASSIM ABDUL-ZAHRA (AP)

Kandahar Bolsters Police Forces

Afghanistan's government will provide more than 1,000 police reinforcements for the southern province of Kandahar in response to Taliban attacks that killed dozens of people there ahead of a coming offensive on the insurgent stronghold, an official said Tuesday.

The Interior Ministry agreed with a provincial request for more security, Kandahar Gov. Tooryalai

Wesa asked for more police after multiple bombs over the weekend killed at least 35 people in Kandahar city. The Taliban called the



A policeman stands in front of the damaged police headquarters in Kandahar.

attacks a "warning" that they are ready for the war's next phase.

Afghan and NATO troops are

planning to move into Kandahar, the Taliban's spiritual birthplace, later this year after securing another stronghold in neighboring Helmand province.

The southern push is part of a new counterinsurgency strategy and follows President Obama's decision to send 30,000 new American troops to Afghanistan to reverse insurgent gains.

Some of the 1,100 new Afghan police in Kandahar will come from the capital, Kabul, and some will be recruited and trained locally, Wesa said. It will take a few months to put the new forces in place. **RAHIM FAIEZ (AP)**



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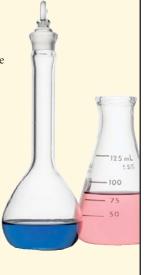
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World

Chile: Quake Killed 700

6.7-magnitude shock hits; 200 missing are included in death toll

Santiago, Chile

The earthquake and tsunami that struck Chile last month killed 700 people, according to the government. And the ground hasn't stopped shaking.

A magnitude-6.7 aftershock rocked south-central Chile Monday night, adding to the raw nerves and mounting damages caused by the Feb. 27 quake.

Chile's Interior Minister Rodrigo Hinzpeter updated the known death toll on Tuesday, saying 200 people previously listed as missing would be added to the count of 500 previously known dead.

"In economic terms, this is the worst catastrophe Chile has suf-



People stand outside after a 6.7-magnitude aftershock in Concepcion. Chile.

fered," Hinzpeter added.

Public Works Minister Hernan de Solminihac said it will cost about \$1.46 billion to restore public infrastructure — notably the fallen bridges that are slowing reconstruction and relief efforts.

Higher taxes on mining operations may be one way to cover the public costs, Hinzpeter said. Conservative lawmakers have rejected the idea of a higher tax burden on the country's crucial mining

sector.

The estimated amount of damages, in billions of dollars, caused by the quake, according to Chile's government.

More political fault lines are also reappearing as Chile's center-left coalition, which just lost power after 20 years in office, tries to reassert itself.

The left-leaning are demanding

greater efforts to help the millions of Chileans affected by the catastrophe. They want to increase the mining tax and more than double the roughly \$80 "March bonus" that President Sebastian Pinera promised to 4.2 million disadvantaged citizens on the campaign trail last year. Finance Minister Felipe Larrain has rejected an increase. (AP)

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Cover Story

An 'Unshakable Bond'?

The ongoing dispute over Jewish settlements has put U.S.-Israel ties to the test

Washington

The United States and Israel stepped back Tuesday from their most public rift in a decade, a dispute over new Jewish homes in a traditionally Arab part of Jerusalem that quickly became a test of U.S. and Israeli commitment to peace talks and one another.

Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton said U.S. and Israeli officials are in intense talks about resuming peace negotiations, moving past the breach opened when Israel announced last week, during a visit by Vice President Joe Biden, that it will build 1,600 more Jewish houses in east Jerusalem.

Israeli officials privately say Prime Minster Benjamin Netanyahu — Washington-bound next week — is willing to go to some lengths to calm tensions. The U.S. is also looking for a way to finesse their demand that Israel cancel the construction. There is no obvious half-measure, and both countries are wary of looking weak to the other, to important political constituencies at home and to the Arab world. Still, the rhetoric suddenly softened.

"We have a close, unshakable bond between the United States and Israel, and between the American and Israeli people," Clinton said. "We share common values and a commitment to a democratic future for the world, and we are both committed to a two-state solution. But that doesn't mean that we're going to agree."

Netanyahu's looming visit leaves little time to paper over the rift. If Netanyahu gets a cold shoulder, he has little incentive to scrap settlements the United States sees as an affront to peace talks. If he skips the trip entirely, the Obama administration risks a backlash from the powerful pro-Israel lobby and its congressional backers, many of whom





Vice President Joe Biden's trip to Israel last week began with a warm reception from Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, above, but when Biden met with Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas the next day, below, an international standoff had already begun.

Meanwhile...

The State Department announced that the Obama administration's special envoy for Mideast peace, George Mitchell, has canceled plans for talks this week with Israeli and Palestinian leaders. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton played down a connection to U.S. pique, but administration officials acknowledged there was no point in sending Mitchell now, because Israel had not budged on the U.S. demand to roll back the planned settlements. (AP)

think Washington has already taken the spat too far.

Rising violence on the streets of Jerusalem accompanied the political maneuvering. Palestinians are growing increasingly frustrated with the lack of progress toward achieving a homeland of their own, and unsubstantiated rumors of Jewish encroachment on their holy sites gave way to the heaviest clashes in months.

The Israeli-U.S. tiff was seen by Arab officials as an opportunity to push Washington to exert more pressure on Israel.

"There is a U.S.-Israel faceoff, and an American anger obvious in the American statements," Egypt's foreign minister, Ahmed Aboul Gheit, said Monday. "Let's leave a chance for this argument to see how it will brew." (AP)

Boiling Over: Anatomy of a Crisis

The Obama administration announces that Israel and the Palestinians have agreed to indirect peace talks. Hours later, after the arrival of Vice President, Ine Riden Israel announces the construction of new settlements in the West Bank.

March 8 March 9

Biden meets with officials in Israel and publicly condemns the West Bank settlement plans, saying it "undermines the trust we need" to move the peace process forward.



Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton telephones Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and warns that Israel sent a "deeply negative signal" with its West Bank announcement.

March 12 March 15

Netanyahu speaks publicly about the settlement fight for the first time, calling it a "regrettable incident" that happened "innocently."

The Obama administration demands that Israel call off the West Bank project and make a public gesture toward the Palestinians.

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Local

Va. Gov. to Donate Funds

McDonnell will give to charity \$100K left from inauguration

Richmond, Va.

Gov. Bob McDonnell, a Republican, has talked for the last couple months about donating his excess inaugural funds to charity, and while everyone agrees that's a generous gesture, let's not forget that state law has changed and that's now required.

A report released Tuesday by

the Virginia Public Access Project, a nonpartisan tracker of money in politics, shows that last year's statewide candidates actually raised far less for their inaugural festivities than their counterparts did four years ago; their counterparts were able to hold onto the excess money by transferring it to political accounts.

In 2006, Gov. Tim Kaine, Democrat, transferred \$800,000; Lt. Gov. Bill Bolling, Republican, transferred \$168,000; and Attorney General McDonnell transferred \$280,000.

That money helped Bolling and McDonnell with their future runs and Kaine support other candidates. This year, McDonnell announced that he will contribute about \$100,000 to charity, while Bolling and Cuccinelli raised exactly what they needed for their inaugural festivities.

McDonnell raised \$1.9 million from more than 1,554 donors. Top donations came from attorneys, state employees, those who work in the defense industry, and veterans, according to VPAP.

ANITA KUMAR (THE WASHINGTON POST)

Pachyderms on Parade



PERFORMER MARIYA KLOSE — a "lovely," in circus parlance — rides atop one of the elephants from the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus near the U.S. Capitol on the National Mall as they parade through town to announce the circus' arrival for performances. The circus' Zing Zang Zoom Red Tour will be at Verizon Center Thursday through Sunday.

The Lotteries

Tuesday, March 16

District

Mid-day Lucky Numbers	4-4-
Evening Lucky Numbers (Mon.)	8-9-
Mid-day DC 4	3-9-6-
Evening DC 4 (Mon.)	8-2-8-
Mid-day D.C. Five	6-3-8-3-
Evening D.C. Five (Mon.)	9-1-5-5-
Daily 6 (Mon.) 10-12-17-	21-25-35 (28

Virginia

Milu-uay Fick 3	4-2-3
Evening Pick 3 (Mon.)	1-6-5
Mid-day Pick 4	2-2-2-0
Evening Pick 4 (Mon.)	5-1-4-5
Mid-day Cash 5 (Tues.)	. 6-16-22-28-33
Evening Cash 5 (Mon.)	1-8-14-16-19

Iaryland

. Ital y Italia	
Mid-day Pick 3	8-2-4
Evening Pick 3 (Mon.)	5-9-7
Mid-day Pick 4	3-3-7-2
Evening Pick 4 (Mon.)	6-8-4-5
Match 5 (Mon.)	5-15-17-20-24 (18)

All winning numbers are official only when validated at a claims location. Drawings that occur after Express deadline will be published two days later.

X172 2x.5

Ex-Gov. Ehrlich Won't Rule Out U.S. Senate Bid

Republican says his supporters want him to return to Congress

Pikesville, Md.

Former Maryland governor Robert Ehrlich said Tuesday supporters are urging him to run for U.S. Senate instead of governor, and he said their suggestions are "in the mix" as he considers his options.

Ehrlich, who became Maryland's first Republican governor in a generation when he won in 2002, has been testing the waters for a 2010 run for governor by traveling around the state to meet with voters.

After Republican Scott Brown



Robert Ehrlich said a possible challenge to Barbara Milkulski this year is "in the mix."

won the U.S. Senate race in Massachusetts in January, Ehrlich said many supporters started urging him to run for Senate against Democrat-

ic Sen. Barbara Mikulski, who has been a senator since 1986 and is campaigning for a fifth term.

"It was unexpected, because

these meetings that we've had have been very clear with a central purpose, which is the governorship," Ehrlich told reporters after speaking to the Pikesville Chamber of Commerce.

Mikulski held a fundraiser Monday night in Baltimore, where the 73-year-old made clear: "I'm not retiring."

Ehrlich, who spent eight years in Congress before running for governor, described the Senate seat as "obviously, a seat that I've looked at over the years ... and I love Congress."

In Maryland's 2006 governor's race, Ehrlich lost his re-election bid, receiving 46 percent of the vote to Martin O'Malley's 53 percent.

Capital Gains Program Gets Boost in D.C.

Washington

A program to pay D.C. middle school students for good behavior and grades has received more money.

The D.C. Council voted to add \$255,000 to the Capital Gains program at a meeting on Tuesday after it was in danger of running out of money.

The program was started in 2008 as a research study in partnership with Harvard University. It pays about 3,000 public school students in 15 schools up to \$100 every two weeks based on attendance, behavior and grades. During the first year, the District spent \$950,000 on the program, which Harvard matched. The same amount was budgeted for the 2009-2010 school year. (AP)

43

The number of potholes, in thousands, Virginia Department of Transportation crews have patched, repaired or filled since March 1, the first day of its pothole blitz. Gov. Bob McDonnell announced Tuesday that crews have worked day and night to address the pavement hazards on state-maintained roads. The state budgeted \$45.8 million for asphalt and concrete patching through June 30. (AP)

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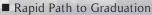








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Sports

"The major championships have always been a special focus in my career. ... I think Augusta is where I need to be."

- TIGER WOODS. WHO WILL FORGO ANY TUNE-UP EVENTS BEFORE PLAYING IN THE YEAR'S FIRST MAJOR TOURNAMENT



British bookmakers have already made Tiger Woods the favorite to win the Masters, which will be his first event since a car accident led to a scandal over infidelities.

Tiger Plans Masters Return

Woods targets year's first major to end his self-imposed exile

Golf

Tiger Woods, who hasn't played golf in public since a Thanksgiving-night car accident unleashed a slew of revelations of marital infidelities that led him to take a leave of absence from the game, announced Tuesday he will return at the Masters, the season's first major championship.

The announcement, made in a statement released Tuesday, means Woods' self-imposed exile lasted roughly five months, and that his pursuit of Jack Nicklaus' record of 18 major titles will not be interrupted by his leave. The Masters begins April 8 in Augusta, Ga.

"The Masters is where I won my first major, and I view this tournament with great respect," Woods said. "After a long and necessary

time away from the game, I feel like I'm ready to start my season at Augusta."

Woods, 34, thus will forfeit any preparation for the major championships, three of which will be staged on courses on which he has won. Woods could have also returned at the Arnold Palmer Invitational March 25-28 in Orlando, near his home in Windermere, Fla., a tournament he has won six times.

But the Masters might offer Woods the most privacy as he

makes a return that will be one of the most closely followed sports stories in years.

The club traditionally does not issue media credentials to outlets that do not historically cover the event, meaning tabloids and celebrity magazines — publications that have ferociously followed Woods's indiscretions and the future of his relationship with his wife, Elin — will almost certainly be unable to question Woods. BARRY SVRLUGA (THE WASHINGTON POST)

In Brief



Nats first baseman Adam Dunn, right, suffered back spasms on Wednesday.

NATIONALS

Nats Finally Get a Win

The Washington Nationals ended an 0-11 spring skid with their first exhibition win, beating the Florida Marlins 12-3 in a split-squad game Tuesday that featured a grand slam by Willie Harris. Ryan Zimmerman, Kevin Mench and Cristian Guzman also homered for the Nationals. Harris hit his slam in the eighth inning off Taylor Tankersley. First baseman Adam Dunn left with back spasms. (AP)

BASEBALL

O's Top Mauer, Twins

Minnesota star Joe Mauer got two hits in his return from a four-day absence, and the Baltimore Orioles beat the Twins 3-1 Tuesday. Mauer is hitting .600 this spring. (AP)

WNBA

Mystics Ink Katie Smith

Katie Smith has signed with the Washington Mystics, with general manager Angela Taylor calling the guard "the LeBron James of this free-agency process." The three-time Olympic champion is the third-leading scorer in WNBA history, helped the Detroit Shock win two titles and was the MVP of the 2008 finals. (AP)

Ovechkin 'Disappointed' About NHL's Suspension

The Capitals

Washington Capitals star Alex Ovechkin was surprised and says he was "disappointed" by the NHL's two-game suspension for his hit on Chicago's Brian Campbell.

The two-time MVP on Tuesday

answered just three questions for reporters in Sunrise, Fla., where the Capitals face the Florida Panthers. Ovechkin said he was sorry that Campbell was injured in the hit, which he said he thought was "just a little push."

Ovechkin drove Campbell into

the boards from behind in the first period Sunday and received a major penalty and a game misconduct. Campbell, a key defenseman for the Blackhawks, will miss seven to eight weeks with a broken collar bone and a fractured rib, the team said on Wednesday. (AP)

TV Lineup

NIT HOOPS (7 P.M., 9 P.M., ESPN2)

Cincinnati hosts Weber State and Northwestern visits Rhode Island in the first round of the NIT.

NBA (8 P.M., 10:30 P.M., ESPN) The Orlando Magic battle the San Antonio Spurs, followed by the Milwaukee Bucks' looking to extend their winning streak against the Los Angeles Clippers.

TENNIS (3 P.M., 10 P.M., CSN) The men's round of 16 and women's quarterfinals take place in the BNP Paribas Open in Indian Wells, Calif.

Sports

Vermeil: L.J. Will Start

Ex-Chiefs coach says Redskins' new back will unseat Portis

The Redskins

While popular opinion might suggest that running back Larry Johnson was brought to town to back up the Washington Redskins' perennial starter, Clinton Portis, one of Johnson's former coaches has a bold prediction.

"He will take over the running back position," said Dick Vermeil, who coached Johnson in Kansas City from 2003 to 2005. "That's what I think. He'll push that guy right out of a job. Larry Johnson will work all week — he'll work Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday - and he'll make you start him on Sundays."

Though Johnson was often a chief source of headaches, two of his former Kansas City coaches sang his praises this week, both dismissing the notion that at 30, Johnson is no longer an effective NFL running back. In fact, both see favorable circumstances in Washington that could help Johnson return to Pro Bowl form.



Running back Larry Johnson had two 1,000-yard seasons with the Kansas City Chiefs.

"His back is against the wall, and for him, that's when he's at his best," said Herman Edwards, who coached in Kansas City from 2006 to 2008. "Most people think he's done, he's finished, he's too old. That actually helps him. He wants to prove people wrong. This is his third team in two years; he knows this could be it. You don't need more incentive than that."

The Redskins signed Johnson last week to a three-year contract. Portis, who missed the final eight games last season after suffering a season-ending concussion, returns for his ninth NFL season. He's been the Redskins' starter since joining the team in 2004. While Johnson has spoken about the pair operating like a tandem, Vermeil sees much more potential.

\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$

"I think they got a great steal in this guy," Vermeil said. "If they have any sort of offensive line, I really believe he'll be the starting running back there, and he'll do very well. If anyone thinks it's some union job and a guy gets to start just because he's the incumbent, nuh-uh. Larry will make him work. [Portis] will have to fight to even hope to keep his job." RICK MAESE (THE WASHINGTON POST)

The Rise and Fall of Soriano

Baseball

When we think of Alfonso Soriano in Washington, we remember a player who delighted and confounded but never failed to entertain, who did things on the field that have not been seen in those parts before or since. His 2006 season still stands as the single best in franchise history. And then just like that, he was gone.

In Chicago, though, they increasingly think of Soriano as an enormous bust — his health a constant question mark, his contribution a net negative, his eight-year, \$136 million contract an albatross



Many critics say the Cubs dropped the ball by signing Alfonso Soriano in 2006.

around the necks of the Cubs.

Even during spring training, where every outlook is rosy and every slumping veteran has finally gotten himself right, it is hard for the Cubs to muster much enthusi-

asm for Soriano. Once their leadoff hitter, he has been dropped to an as-yet-undetermined lineup spot right after all the still-productive hitters. "He'll hit fifth or sixth," said manager Lou Piniella, admirably spinning the demotion as a promotion. "A good RBI spot."

Only Soriano himself, it seems, believes he can be the player he was in Washington four years ago, the one who hit 46 homers and stole 41 bases. "I still have the talent," Soriano said recently. "The only thing for me is to stay healthy so I can help the team to win. If I stay healthy, I will put up the numbers." DAVE SHEININ (THE WASHINGTON POST)



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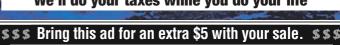
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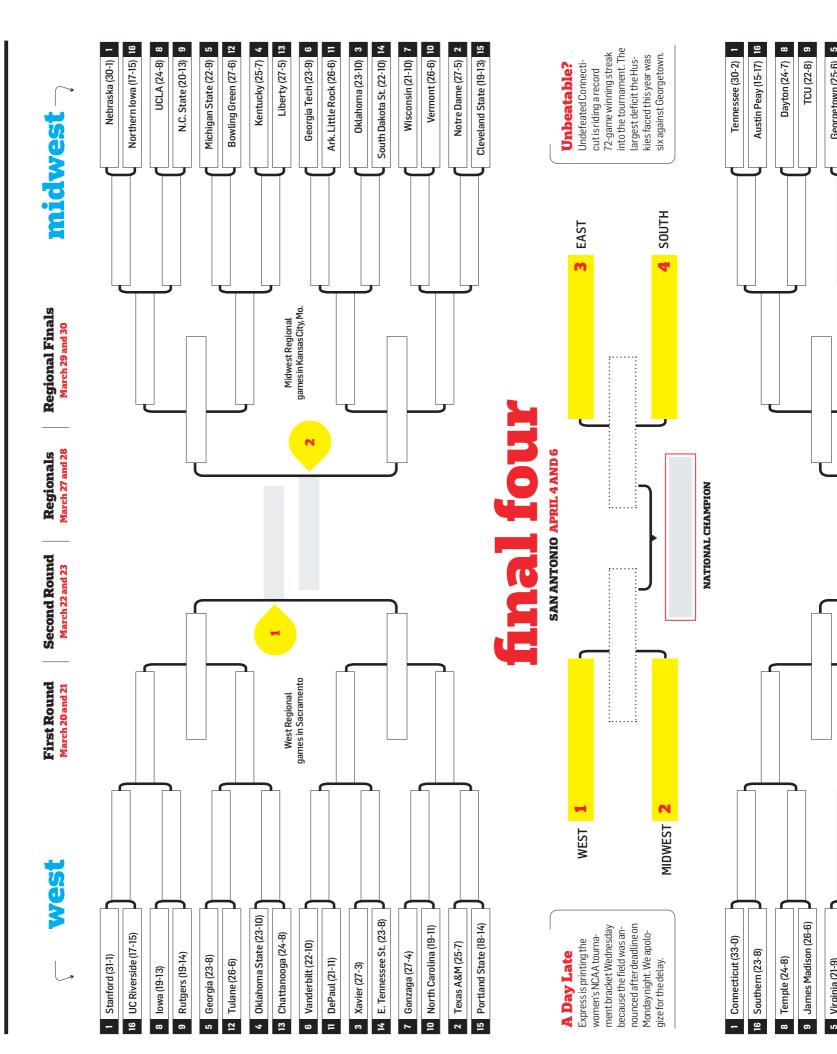
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Final Farewell

A small funeral is held for actor Corey Haim in Toronto **35**

Off the Cuffs



Upper-Class Acts

Ever since The Situation, JWoWW and the ridiculously coiffed "Jersey Shore" crew gave a final fist bump in January, I thought nothing could fill the trashy TV void in my life.

I was wrong. Enter the CW's "High Society" (Wed., 9:30 p.m.), which debuted last week with a flurry of fancy



fashions and behavior so outrageous it would make Snooki blush. The escapades of New York socialite Tinsley Mortimer, above, and a cast of obnoxious characters—trouble-making heir PJC; a legion of un-

failingly rude, perfectly dyed blondes — give a rare glimpse into the lives of the rich and wannabe-famous.

Ultimately, it's not the heavy partying and catty gossiping that makes the show so watchable. What's fascinating is the glimpse into how the other half dresses: the closets full of designer duds, the consistently perfect coifs, the insanely high heels. When bow tie-clad PJC gets a \$25,000 advance from his trust fund, he immediately calls up several designers and demands they send over all their latest pieces. Subsequently, he throws a drink in a woman's face at a party. Which brings us to a new reality idea. Who would win in a fight: PJC or Sammi? Now that we'd TiVo.

The Divided Chicks

Two gals break from singing Dixie and launch a side project at SXSW this week

Music

Even though the Court Yard Hounds are a new group, they are hardly your typical baby act. The duo are derived from one of music's best-selling bands — the Dixie Chicks — and their self-titled debut album is already among the spring's more anticipated releases.

"Some of the starting over is actually fun. We missed it along the way. When I look back at some of the Chicks stuff, it's the early stuff we did where we kind of giggle and go, 'You know what? Those were the good old days,'" Martie Maguire says. "We're feeling kind of those butterflies in our stomach once again."

The butterflies will be present on Thursday when they make their stage debut at the South by Southwest music festival in Austin, Texas — an industry showcase for nearly 2,000 acts, from eclectic, esoteric bands to legends. Among the expected highlights of the festival, which runs from Thursday to Sunday, are performances from Spoon, the Stone Temple Pilots, Estelle, Fall Out Boy's Patrick Stump, Smokey Robinson and more.

"It's turned into such a great springboard for music and so many influential people come and listen to music," said Robison. "You're looking them in the eyeballs, and



 $Emily Robison \ and \ Martie \ Maguire \ are \ members \ of the \ Dixie \ Chicks, \ are \ sisters \ and \ are \ the \ newly \ formed \ Court \ Yard \ Hounds.$

"Starting over is actually fun. ...

We're feeling those butterflies in our stomach again."

you're in the trenches, which we feel like we've returned to the trenches somewhat to launch this new band."

SXSW will mark the first time they will be center stage since the Dixie Chicks took off more than a decade ago, when it was Natalie Maines singing lead, flanked by Emily Robison and Maguire playing their string instruments, usually banjo and fiddle. With the

Tour

Together Again

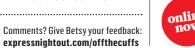
Don't freak, devoted Dixie Chicks

fans—just because the Court
Yard Hounds exist doesn't mean
the Chicks don't. In fact, Natalie, Emily and Martie are hitting
the road together this summer
in their original form. The country trio will be joining the Eagles
as special guests on their tour.
They hit the road June 8 and will
be at Nationals Park on June 15.
Tickets aren't on sale yet, but
check out Livenation.com to get
the skinny on snagging yours
early. (EXPRESS)

Court Yard Hounds, Robison will be singing lead.

While the Chicks haven't broken up, they haven't made any new music since their Grammy-winning 2006 album, "Taking the Long Way." Both Maguire and Robison grew restless, and after Robison penned several new songs after her divorce, they decided to form a new group while the Chicks remained on hiatus.

"With the Chicks, to leave the house, it's just a big undertaking," Robison said. "It's kind of like we re-created this monster, and it's a beautiful monster at times. But it's harder to activate. This time, it's a little bit more ... "Mobile!" interjects Maguire, as they both laugh. NEKESA MUMBI MOODY (AP)





expressnightout.com lookout



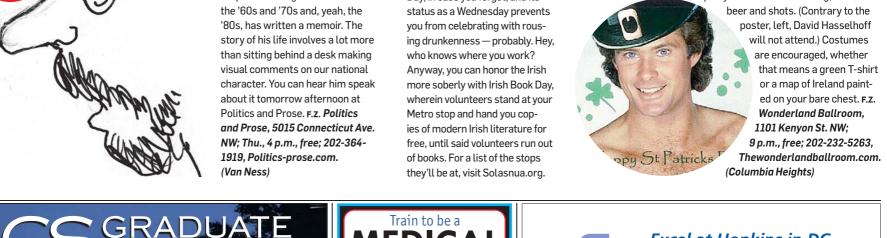
Animated Life Jules Feiffer, the man whose eponymous comic strip in the Village Voice defined '80s, has written a memoir. The 1919, Politics-prose.com. (Van Ness)

HEY, LOOK: FREÉ STUFF Today is St. Patrick's

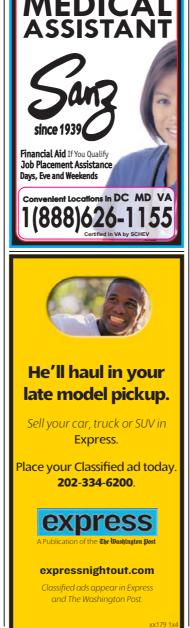
Day, in case you forgot, and its status as a Wednesday prevents you from celebrating with rouswho knows where you work? Anyway, you can honor the Irish wherein volunteers stand at your Metro stop and hand you copies of modern Irish literature for free, until said volunteers run out of books. For a list of the stops

Rainbows for Everyone Wonderland is not a gay bar, but it turns

> into one for the Pink Sock St. Patrick's Day party. There will be dancing, and \$5







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A Pretty Facade

'New Moon' proves that good looks do not a good film make

DVD Review

According to frenzied prepubescent, teen and even adult female fans everywhere, there's nothing not to love about "New Moon," which comes out on DVD on March 20. Visually, it improves upon the

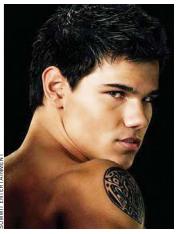


special effects used in the previous "Twilight," which may be thanks to the first film's huge success at the box

office. And in terms of attractive young men, there are two battling for Bella's (Kristen Stewart) affection: Robert Pattinson, who plays the icily delicious vampire Edward Cullen, and Taylor Lautner in the role of Jacob Black, a werewolf trying to steal Bella's heart.

Having a pretty face, though, doesn't necessarily mean you can act, and in that sense, "New Moon" is almost as torturous as "Twilight."

It may just be that Stephenie Meyer's words work better on paper than they do actually being uttered by real-life people, but just like "Twilight" felt like it was trying too hard, "New Moon" is imbued with that same imperfection. There have been plenty of tortured human-vampire love stories



Taylor Lautner buffed up for the movie, much to the delight of his tween fans.

expressnightout

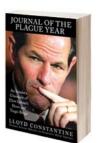
To watch the "New Moon" trailer and to read other reviews of new DVDs, please visit **expressnightout.com**.

.....

before — Buffy and Angel, Dracula and Mina, Sookie and Bill — but none as overacted as this.

And if you get bored during the film's obnoxiously long 130-minute run time, you can always switch over to the set's special features, which include a discussion with director Chris Weitz and editor Peter Lambert; a six-part documentary that takes viewers behind the scenes of the film's production; and band rehearsal footage with Muse. Holding all judgment, though, the rehearsal is enjoyable for fans of the band and, though the documentary drags a bit, it's interesting to see how the film came together. ROXANA HADADI

Mixed Media



"JOURNAL OF THE PLAGUE YEAR" (\$24.95)

Wasted Potential

Author Lloyd Constantine was Eliot Spitzer's senior adviser during his governorship. After publishing "Journal of the Plague Year: An Insider's Chronicle of Eliot Spitzer's Short and Tragic Reign," he's also become a former friend. Spitzer dismisses the memoir as "a fundamental breach of trust." What's more surprising is how boring it is — a bunch of dishy gunk about a dysfunctional government. Where's all the good stuff? (BLOOMBERG NEWS)

entertainment lookout

Sister Act in Progress

Tegan & Sara dish on songwriting and joining Lilith Fair

Music

Tegan & Sara's latest album, "Sainthood," has opened the door for the two to spend more time writing together.

Though the twin sisters have composed apart from each other during their 12 years as a group, they held a writing session together before hitting the studio for "Sainthood," and one of their songs, "Paperback Head," made the cut. "We wrote a bunch of other stuff together as well," says Tegan Quinn. "It was pretty late in the process where we'd sort of determined what songs we wanted to record already. We didn't feel we wrote anything else that challenged those songs."

Tegan Quinn says that the duo found their writing styles were not particularly compatible, with Sara by far the more "meticulous" of the two. But with "Paperback Head" the sisters, who live on opposite sides of their native Canada, discovered they could work together if they weren't in the same room.

"We've been sharing files and sending MP3s back and forth, and collaborating that way," she says. "We find it easier. But I'm glad we did try to sit in a room together and do it so we could see how we each worked. I felt proud we were able to do it without being arrested or killing each other."

Tegan Quinn, who also did some writing for "Sainthood" with AFI bassist Hunter Burgan, her partner in a forthcoming side project,



Sara, left, and Tegan Quinn get along, but they like to work in separate rooms.

"I felt proud we were able to [write songs together] without being arrested or killing each other."

predicts that "there is definitely a project in the future that will just be Tegan & Sara collaborating on songs. I know a lot of people are, like, 'OK, whatever'; they assumed this whole time we'd been writing together. But I think a record written solely as Tegan & Sara songs would sound very different than anything we've done before."

That project will certainly have to wait until after Tegan & Sara tour in support of "Sainthood." The duo is on the road in North America through early April, with Australian dates on tape for May. They'll also



Sainthood
Tegan & Sara

be part of this year's Honda Civic Tour, but they're particularly excited about being on Sarah McLachlan's Lilith Fair bill when the festival tour resumes this summer.

"The year we started playing music professionally was the year Lilith Fair ended [1999]," Tegan Quinn recalls. "We did a Lilith Fair date that year on the Village Stage, the local promoter's stage. So, for 10 years we've been answering questions about playing Lilith Fair and we really ... didn't. So, we can't wait. I think Lilith Fair is a one-of-a-kind festival, and it's been missed the last 10 years — at least by artists like us." GARY GRAFF (BILLBOARD.COM)

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The Popular Girl: Betty White's dance card continues to fill. The comedian-actress has signed to co-star in the TV Land sitcom "Hot in Cleveland." White, previously cast only for the pilot, plays the snarky but spry caretaker of the Cleveland home shared by three former L.A. residents. "Hot" is set to start in June. The 88-year-old White last week was named to host "Saturday Night Live" on May 8. (AP)



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TV tonight lookout

Best Bets

NBC 8:00 **Mercy** After a St. Patrick's Day binge, Veronica considers seeing a therapist. Meanwhile, still privately mourning the death of her patient, Sonia runs into an ex-boyfriend at a St. Patrick's Day fair.



America's Next Top
Model The contestants are ex-

photo shoot, until judge and bosswoman Tyra Banks tells them that they can wear only one article of clothing during the session.



High Society Alexandra and Dabney plan a "singles shower" for Tinsley, but her mother, Dale, just makes things awkward for everyone.



Law & Order: Special Victims Unit A girl claims she was raped in the stairwell of her apartment building, but after a meeting with a man she claims is her boyfriend, Benson and Stabler begin to suspect she made up the story to get attention. (TRIBUNE MEDIA)



'UGLY' AMERICANS

Love Thy Odd Neighbor

сом 10:30 This series should appeal to "South Park" fans who stick around after that show's season opener. "Ugly" takes place in an animated New York City overrun by aliens,

zombies and other supernatural freaks. Mark (Matt Oberg) is a social worker who tries to integrate the newcomers, but he's thwarted by a bigoted police force and a bureaucracy run by demons.

KEVIN MCDONOUGH (UNITED FEATURE SYNDICATE)

Legends

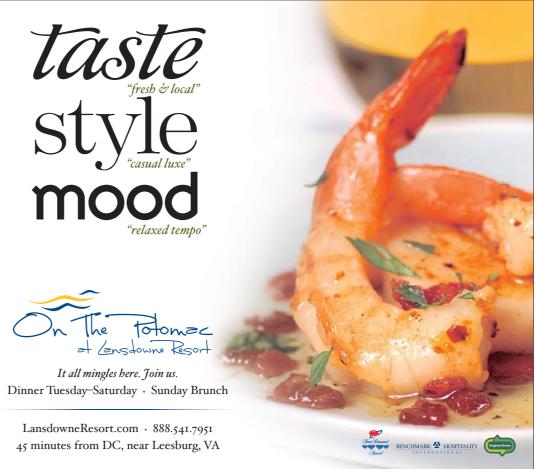


Luck Needed

Leprechauns! They used to be the stuff of St. Patrick's Day TV fantasies and special episodes of "Bonanza." But tonight, Josh Gates, above, and his team on "Destination Truth" (10 p.m., SyFy) embark on a high-tech search for "real" leprechauns. Anyone who has ever seen this show knows that this results in a lot of shaky surveillance footage in dark corners while attendant experts scream, "Did you see that?" K.M.



For reservations, directions, or further details, please visit latascausa.com



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\$700 Save up to 60 percent on this weeklong stay at an all-inclusive resort in Mexico's Riviera Maya. The deal includes round-trip airfare from Baltimore on Air Tran, USA 3000, Sun Country Airlines or another carrier to Cancún; seven nights at the Gran Bahía Príncipe Cobá; all meals and beverages; fuel surcharges; and hotel taxes, from \$700 per person — plus airport taxes and fees of \$101 to \$140.

DETAILS: Based on double occupancy; single supplement is about \$400. Book by March 25. Contact Applevacations.com.

BAHAMAS CRUISE

\$209 A quick, three-night weekend cruise in May is a good option for first-time cruisers. The deal includes three nights' accommodations aboard the Norwegian Sky, departing from Miami and stopping in Nassau and Great Stirrup Cay; all meals and drinks; and nightly entertainment, from \$209 per person — plus about \$78 in taxes.

WHEN: May 14; add \$30 for May 7, 21; \$120 for May 28.

DETAILS: Based on double occupancy; single supplement is from \$209. Contact Cruisesforless.com.

FOUR NIGHTS IN ORLANDO

This package includes four nights at the Quality Inn International, about a five-minute drive from Universal Orlando; early park admission to the new Wizarding World of Harry Potter an hour before Universal's Islands of Adventure's regularly scheduled park opening; breakfast at the Three Broomsticks; and other theme park perks and discounts, from \$285 per person — including all taxes.

WHEN: May 28–Dec. 31, 2010.

DETAILS: Airfare is not included. Contact Universalorlando.com.

From Budget Travel Magazine

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The Adventures of Mark Twain

A New York town touts its connection to the famed writer

Destinations

Huckleberry Finn sprang to life in a swirl of cheap cigar smoke at Mark Twain's cozy hilltop cabin in upstate New York far from the Mississippi River.

On the centenary of the author's death, Twainiacs will swarm Hannibal, Mo., the river town of his boyhood that inspired a raft of literary gems, and Hartford, Conn., where Twain lived in middle age. Only a few thousand visitors typically show up in Elmira, a small city in New York's bucolic Chemung River Valley where much of his best-known fiction was actually written.

But civic boosters think this is one year when a bump in attendance is all but assured.

Elmirans in period costume will ride in horse-drawn carriages to Woodlawn Cemetery in an April 24 centennial re-enactment of his burial. Hal Holbrook will reprise his Mark Twain Tonight! impersonation at a vaudeville theater that bears Twain's real name, Samuel L. Clemens.

"If there was ever a town that needed a tourism boost and to get on the map, it's Elmira," said Mar-



The front porch of Mark Twain's Quarry Hill farm in Elmira, N.Y., offers views of the Chemung River Valley and Pennsylvania.

tha Horton of Friends of Woodlawn Cemetery, a nonprofit group.

Twain was lured to Elmira by romance, marrying wealthy coal merchant's daughter Olivia Langdon in 1870. For the next 20 summers, at Quarry Hill farm atop East Hill with its entrancing view of the valley and a receding range of blue-hued hills in Pennsylvania, he excelled in his craft.

"The setting worked a magic on

"The Mississippi River is the inspirational memory; Elmira ... helps him tap into that memory."

— BARBARA SNEDECOR, DIRECTOR OF ELMIRA COLLEGE'S CENTER FOR MARK TWAIN STUDIES, ON THE IMPORTANCE OF ELMIRA, N.Y., IN MARK TWAIN'S LIFE. his mind in his ability to remember" his early life along a more grandiose river, said Barbara Snedecor, director of Elmira College's Center for Mark Twain Studies.

Here, he wrote virtually all of "The Adventures of Tom Sawyer," "The Prince and the Pauper," "A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court" and "The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn." BEN DOBBIN (AP)

Continental Changes Tune on Food Fees

Air Travel

Attention, coach passengers: Continental Airlines, which used to boast about giving away hamburgers and barbecue while rivals passed out tiny bags of pretzels, is changing its tune on food.

Continental plans to launch a food-for-sale program that mirrors what other carriers do already.

A spokesman said Monday that the Houston-based airline expects a \$35 million annual benefit, from cost savings and added revenue.



Passengers on Continental Airlines flights will soon be charged for food.

Delta Air Lines, American Airlines, US Airways and United Airlines are among the carriers that already charge for food on flights.

Continental passengers on some international routes, on domestic flights lasting more than six hours, and those who sit in first or business class on routes will continue to get free food. Snacks such as pretzels and nonalcoholic drinks will still be free for all.

The changes take effect in the fall. Menu choices and prices will be disclosed later.

Air travelers have seen a steady erosion of amenities included in the price of their tickets over the last two years or so, from checked bags to pillows and blankets on board. Airlines call it unbundling the product, allowing them to offer lower base fares and charge extra only for people who want more.

But with so many add-on fees, a traveler could end up paying more when everything is added together than what they previously paid for an all-inclusive ticket. HARRY R. WEBER (AP)

Mock-Meat Smackdown

Craving burgers and bacon is as patriotic as Little League and "American Idol." So, it's no shock that, as vegan and vegetarian diets claw their way into the mainstream, mock-meat makers have piggybacked on the country's patty and link obsession.

"Fake meat helps people who have never tried vegetarian food before, because it's the texture they're used to," says DJ Kim, owner of Java Green (1020 19th St. NW; 202-775-8899), a vegetarian-vegan lunch spot popular among all breeds of downtown eaters, with a second location to open soon east of Dupont

Circle. Not to mention, Kim says, mock-meat "products are becoming tastier than before, and with much more variety."

In other words, Tofurky isn't just a punch line anymore. For Meatless Monday-ascribing carnivores and a new generation of herbivores, eschewing animal flesh doesn't have to mean hunkering down with a mountain of rabbit food for dinner.

To help you navigate the wilds of the fake-meat aisle of the grocery store, we sampled a few popular varieties, all available at Whole Foods. Katie knorovsky

Meet the Tasters

- **EMILY KING**, 27, is content manager for Living Social and is a meat-loving foodie who can polish off a queen cut of prime rib at Annie's Paramount Steakhouse with little to no effort.
- KATIE KNOROVSKY, 26, is a freelance writer who went vegetarian three years ago. Two years ago, she and her vegetarian husband hosted a turkeyfree Thanksgiving dinner for a table of carnivores — and lived to tell the tale.

YVES VEGGIE CHORIZO

Soy protein punched up with traditional chorizo spices, that's - bonus - cholesterolfree. \$4.30 for 6 oz.



The chorizo was too chewy, but perhaps wrapped in a burrito, or stirred into chili, its jaw-challenging texture would be masked enough to be enjoyable, since the flavor itself wasn't objectionable.

It's not as salty as sausage, so you can actually taste the herbs and spices. Sausage can be overwhelming in dishes, so this would be an interesting substitute — it gives a subtle spiced flavor without really tasting like pork.

MORNINGSTAR BBQ RIBLETS

A sauce-slathered snack that was the crowned victor at a recent D.C. PETA faux-meat party. \$5 for 10 oz.



Fibrous texture plus toomeaty flavor equals [insert gagging sound]. Then again, the only part of ribs we ever liked was the BBQ sauce. Also, how can you not raise your eyebrows at a product that vaguely lists "meatless riblet" as its first ingredient?

It tastes like meat, but not good meat. It seems like a McDonald's McRib that's been masked by sugar and salt. It's pretty nauseating, actually.

WESTSOY SEITAN STIR FRY STRIPS

A chameleon-like wheat gluten (low-fat, too) that's been a part of the Buddhist diet for centuries. \$3.50 for 8 oz.



With their unfortunate consistency, these weird little strips give new meaning to the term "rubber ducky," which is ironic, considering seitan sometimes stands in for quackers in Asian stir-fry dishes.

This texture and taste amount to chomping on really stale French toast with a salty maple flavor and odd mouth feel. Not good at all.

QUORN CHIK'N PATTIES

A fungus-based protein popularized in Europe, enveloped in a crumb coating like a chicken patty. \$4.69 for 4



Chicken was always our meat of choice in our carnivore era, so this light, tender faux clucker breast satisfies our occasional poultry cravings. It'd be great for lazy lunches when we can't stomach another Boca Burger or PB&J.

This is actually really tasty, which is surprising. It reminds us of the chicken patties that we ate in elementary school.

LIGHTLIFE'S FAKIN' BACON STRIPS

Salty soy-and-brown-rice tempeh strips that are fried until crispy to create bacon-y flavor. \$3.69 for 6 oz.



Emphasis on "Fakin," these thick strips aren't anything like the bacon strips we remember - though that actually earned points from this pork-averse taste tester. The gray-brown, seed-speckled appearance, however, did not.

It tastes nothing like bacon, but more like a blob of liquid smoke that's been oversalted. There doesn't seem to be any point in cooking with this.

Mixed Media

A Veggie Life in the **Slow Lane**



Asking vegetarians incredulously how they get their protein is more than a cliché — it's also a slap in the face to cookbook authors such as Lynn Alley, author of "The Gourmet Vegetarian Slow Cooker" (\$20, Ten Speed Press). Her new book offers a passport full of meat-free global eats, with rejiggerings of the greatest hits of your favorite takeout spots, from Italian polenta lasagna to Japanese-style braised tofu. The book gives both vegetarians and omnivores a sophisticated excuse to pull out that dusty slow-cooker Great-Aunt Helga gave you for Christmas in 2002. Best For: Home cooks looking to spice up their eating ruts with easy, hearty fare. Recipes We're Dying to Try: Minted Potato and Chickpea Curry, Mexican Chocolate Pudding Cake, Polenta Gnocchi in Tomato Sauce and Armenian Apricot Soup. к.к.

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Yesterday's Results

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54% 46%YES NO

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COMMENTER SCOTT

"Absolutely. Even though [he] is a superstar, he must be made an example of. Otherwise he will continue his reckless actions."

COMMENTER ERIK FROM CANADA

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"I have a hard enough time in a normal-sized body

— I'm always inspired by people who radiate the good vibes despite their challenges. Thanks for the inspiration, Pingping!"

— A COMMENTER AT **DLISTED.COM** LAMENTS THE DEATH OF HE PINGPING, THE WORLD'S SMALLEST MAN, ACCORDING TO GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS. THE MAN DIED OF HEART COMPLICATIONS WHILE FILMING A TV SHOW IN ITALY ON SATURDAY AT 21.

"I guess you can talk as tough as you want on a record and in interviews, but at the arraignment it's only entertainment."

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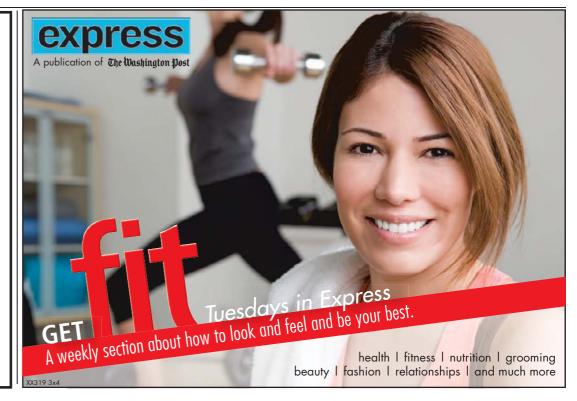


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puzzles lookout

Horoscope

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) You may be playing a different game than everyone else, though some of the rules are the same. Two roads may converge.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) The sooner you make a decision about the days immediately to follow, the more likely you are to win the results you seek.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Important news comes your way that shapes the way you think about certain routine responsibilities. Change is around the corner.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) By doing only a little extra, you can help someone close to you in a way that is beyond all expectations.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) You may uncover something that makes sense out of a past situation that, at the time, was impossible to understand at all.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Any attempts to fool those around you are likely to backfire, resulting in a self-deception that can actually prove hazardous.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Avoid making any lasting decisions until you have confirmed one or two key pieces of information brought to you by others.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) Someone you know may put you on the spot before the day is out, but after an initial kneejerk reaction, you can acquit yourself quite well.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) You may not be able to lift yourself out of a current rut, but someone who has gone unnoticed for some time steps up and lends a hand.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) You may not be able keep up the

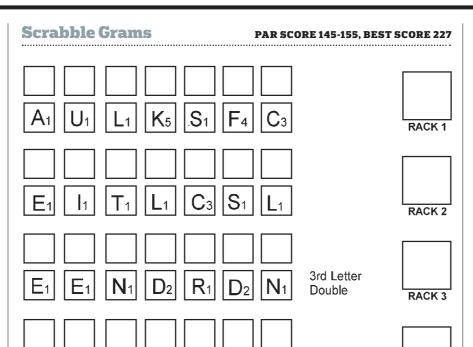
momentum throughout the day, but even a serious slowdown needn't keep you from reaching certain goals.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

Once you figure out what to keep and what to dispense with, you'll understand just where you're heading and how you make the journey.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) Not all is likely to be clear to you; the information you receive from a friend or co-worker gets you closer to the truth.





FOUR RACK TOTAL

RACK 3 = ___62

RACK 4 = TOTAL 222

Make a 2-7 letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word using scoring directions at right. 7-letter words get a 50-point bonus. Blank tiles used as any letter have no point value. Scrabble is a trademark of Hasbro in the U.S. and Canada.

Triple

Word Score

Sudoku

MEDIUM

	2			8				9
4	2 5 8				1			8
	8			3			5	
9					4			
9		5				3		2
			7					2
	1			6			8	
8			1				9	3
8				7			4	

Yesterday's Solution

2	9	1					7	
5	3	8	1	6	7	2	4	9
7	6	4	2	9	5	1	3	8
4	1	6	7	2	8	5	9	3
8	7	3	9	5	1	4	6	2
9	5	2	9 6	3	4	7	8	1
6	8	7	5	1	9	3	2	4
3	2	5	4	8	6	9	1	7
1	4	9	3	7	2	8	5	6

Need more Suldolku? Find another puzzle in the Comics section of

The Post every Sunday and in the Style section Monday through Saturday.

© PUZZLES BY PAPPOCOM

Comics

PAR SCORE 145-155

Yesterday's Solution

D₂ E₁ G₂ R₁ E₁ E₁

P₃ L₁ A₁ Y₄ L₁ E₁ T₁

K₅ I₁ N₁ E₁ T₁ I₁ C₃

A₁ B₃ A₁ S₁ I₁ N₁ G₂ RACK 1 = 63

FIND MORE COMICS AT EXPRESSNIGHTOUT.COM

RACK 4

POOCH CAFE | PAUL GILLIGAN







PEARLS BEFORE SWINE | STEPHAN PASTIS







Forecast



Today: Delightful today with sunshine. Mainly clear tonight.



Tomorrow: Sunshine and mild tomorrow. Mainly clear tomorrow night.

Looking Ahead







72 47 71 49 67 47

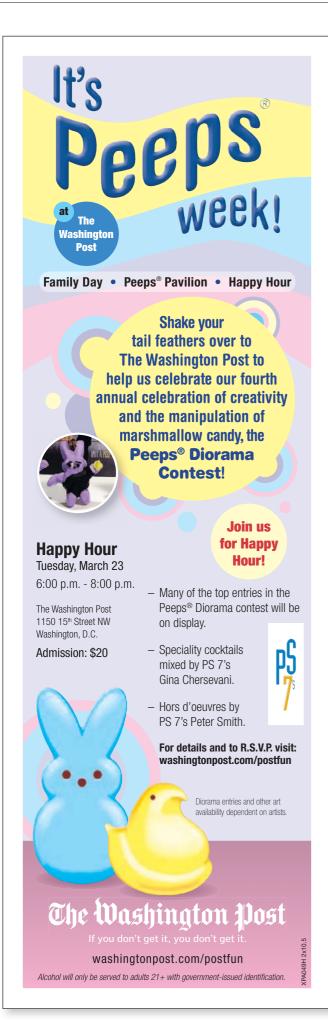
Sun and Moon

Sunrise today: 7:17 a.m. Sunset today: 7:17 p.m. Moonrise today: 7:42 a.m. Moonset today: 9:24 p.m.

Normal high: 56 Record high: 86 Normal low: 37 Record low: 14

Almanac

FORECAST BY ACCUWEATHER.COM © 2009



lookout puzzles

1/

17

20

22

27

43

50

63

66

38 39

61

Crossword IN TRAFFIC

18

23

28

33 34 35

51

56

15

29

40

30

58

53

ACROSS

- 1 Oozing movie menace
- 5 Mesa, Calif.
- 10 Akebono's sport
- 14 Grammy winner Horne
- 15 "With God ____ Side"
- 16 In a short while
- 17 Animated movie based on Beatles songs
- 20 They have time on their hands
- 21 Used a bench
- 22 "Star Wars" forename
- 23 "To the max" suffix
- 24 Catchall column heading
- 27 Excised spud buds
- 29 Scrub
- 32 Twosome
- 33 FBI worker, briefly
- 36 "A" and "the'
- 38 Memorable occasions
- 41 Hooded baby bed
- 42 A sniggler snares it
- 43 A compass can help you make one
- 44 Corset stiffeners
- 46 "Monster___
- 50 Flinches, for instance
- 52 "Men in Black" co-star
- Tommy ___ Jones
- 55 Murmur romantically
- 56 "Before," when before
- 57 Snazzy wheels
- 60 Favre's old team
- 63 Defy waterproofing, in a way
- 64 Honeymoon hideaways
- 65 French notion
- 66 View from a pew
- 67 "We hold ___ truths to be
- self-evident"
- 68 Taped-eyeglasses wearer

DOWN

- 1 Danner, mother of Gwyneth Paltrow
- 2 Room to maneuver
- 3 How some people shop

- 4 With no hair apparent 5 Monks' hoods
- 6 Commencements
- 7 Go bad, as milk
- 8 They may be draining
- 9 Something up your sleeve
- 10 Vocalist Vaughan
- 11 In a harmonious manner
- 12 Wk. starter, for many
- 13 Its root is itself
- 18 Yeats offering
- 19 With one leg on each side of
- 24 Really bizarre
- 25 Regrets
- 26 Titanic transmission
- 28 Some parents

- 30 Slyly spiteful
- 31 Bonanza yield

62

64

67

- 34 Reflect brilliantly
- 35 Canvas shelters
- 37 Cool as a cucumber
- 38 Book classification
- 39 The ones that got
- away?
- 40 Crumpets partner
- 41 High-jump need
- 45 Aspen attractions
- 47 Give in, as to a
- demand
- 48 Airborne eagle, e.g.
- 49 Cut up (with "around")
- 51 Fancy pancake
- 53 Clear a blackboard
- 54 "Yada, yada, yada"
- 57 Casement, e.g.

58 Gomer of Mayberry

59

65

68

- 59 Dermatologist's concern
- 60 Federal purchasing org.

12

25

48

16

13

- 61 Sales staff member (abbr.)
- 62 Comedy routine

Yesterday's Solution

¹ P	² o	³s	⁴E		°С	⁶ E	⁷ D	⁸ A	³R		18E	"F	¹² T	¹³ S
14A	Р	Е	х		¹⁵ O	R	Α	Т	E		16 M	1	s	0
17W	Α	т	Ε	18 R	м	Е	L	0	N		19 [R	Α	N
²⁹ S	н	А	R	Е	R			²¹ M	Е	²² R	G	Е	R	s
			²³ C	Е	А	24 S	²⁵ E		²6W	А	R	Е		
²⁷ S	28 H	²⁹ E	Т	к	D	0	М		30 A	v	E	s	31 _T	³² A
33 _T	Е	А	s		34 E	N	-	35 S	L	Е		36C	А	м
37R	Α	R	Ε			38 G	т	Т	_	_	38 C	Α	R	Е
40 U	L	т		⁴¹ F	42 A	s	Т	Е	43 R		40	Р	Е	N
45 _T	s	н	46	R	т		47E	v	Е	48 _N	N	Е	s	s
	_	49 M	0	0	т		[∞] D	Е	v	A	s			
⁵¹ S	⁵² P	0	N	G	E	⁵³ S			54 _O	Р	Ť	55 A	58 _T	⁵⁷ E
58 L	E	v	ī		59 S	U	[€] N	⁸¹ G	L	A	s	s	E	s
62 A	s	E	Ā		63 _T	R	E	A	Ŧ		64 _T	A	R	P
65W	0	R	N		68 S	Е	Е	Р	s		67 S	Р	R	γ

<mark>loday</mark> in History

Gen. Douglas MacArthur arrives in Australia to become the supreme commander of the Allied forces in the southwest Pacific theater during World War II.

In an unprecedented purge, 1999 In an unprecedented purget the International Olympic Committee expels six members for taking cash, travel and lavish gifts from the winning Utah bidders for the 2002 Winter Games.

EXPRESS CAC



Published by Express Publications LLC 1150 15th St. NW. Washington, DC 20071 A Subsidiary of The Washington Post Co.

Editorial: 202-334-6800 Fax: 202-334-9777 Circulation: 202-334-6992 Advertising: 202-334-6732 or ads@readexpress.com Classifieds: 202-334-6200

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people lookout



RELATIONSHIPS

Obsession: It's Worked So Well for Her Before

Lindsay Lohan has a new boyfriend, Radaronline.com reported. Sam Webb is a Dolce & Gabbana model who lives in London and was seen. with Lohan at Fashion Week in both Paris and Milan. "She's obsessed with Sam. She's looking for projects that are based in England so she can be near him," an anonymous source told the Web site. "She's in heaven," the source added. (EXPRESS)

INTERNET BAD

Miley Makes Compelling Plea to Save Print Media

Miley Cyrus, who took down her Twitter page in October at boyfriend Liam Hemsworth's request, told Movieline that her frequent posts made her "sad" about lacking a "real, normal life." "I'm telling kids, 'Don't go on the Internet," she says. "It's dangerous, it's not fun, it wastes your life. And you should be outside playing sports or something." (EXPRESS)



Not even the engineering marvel that is the underwire could redeem this dress.

Athletics



Sooo ... Where's **Tonya Harding?**

Jon Gosselin's ex Hailey Glassman will battle adult film star Gina Lynn, above, in a fight organized by the Celebrity Boxing Association, Radaronline.com reported. Joey Buttafuoco will referee the match. Glassman and Lynn will meet for the first time at a March 31 press conference; the actual fight will take place on May 7. (EXPRESS)



Coreys Feldman and Haim, in probably not-very-much-happier times.

Corey Haim, RIP

Corey Haim was laid to rest Tuesday in Toronto, with more than 200 friends and family in attendance. Fans crowded around the funeral home to pay their respects. Longtime friend Corey Feldman, who did not attend the funeral, posted a goodbye letter to Haim on his Web site, which began: "This is for you on the day of your funeral. First off I am so sorry I am not there with you today. By that I mean my physical body is not with your physical body. However you know that my heart is right at your side." (EXPRESS)



ALCOHOL

Sober Coach: 'Step Away From the Wine Cooler'

Charlie Sheen pleaded not guilty to domestic violence charges on Monday, nearly three months after his wife told Colorado police he put a knife to her throat and threatened to kill her. Sheen showed little emotion and said nothing during his arraignment. According to Radaronline.com, he is being accompanied to work by a "sober coach" and returning to rehab at night. (EXPRESS)

"Rielle is a smart woman. She knows what she wore and what she was doing in the photo shoot."



-LISA DEPAULO. WHO PROFILED RIELLE HUNTER FOR GQ. HUNTER SAID SHE WAS "REPULSED" BY THE SEXY PICTURES THE MAGAZINE RAN WITH

THE STORY ABOUT HER

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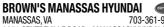
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